



MAY, 96

THE GARZETTE



VOLUME 3, ISSUE 5

The President's Pen

By Howie Gould, W4NVF

GARS is still attracting new members thanks to the many ambassadors we have who welcome new calls on the machine as well as spreading the good news about GARS around the metro area. The one advantage we have over other clubs is how our general membership feels about the club. That is obvious in every conversation you hear about GARS. The programs we are running are also a major factor and of course we would be going nowhere without the help of those individuals heading up the various activities we have on tap. Not every one is totally happy with all of the club's daily business and that is to be expected for we are after



all nothing but mortal humans. But what we do have is freedom from terrible infighting that can tear a club apart. Our meetings are open and pleasant and our attendance is up over other clubs because of that one factor. We leave the business up to the elected officers to handle and that really makes a difference. Our members support every activity we plan and really contribute to the success of the club.

Sounds like a perfect club doesn't it? Well it isn't, but when you feel good about something and promote it then others get interested in what you are feeling good about and

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GARS Ham Of The Month Dave Babulski, N4XVF

By Karl Phillips, N4JON

Dave was born in San Bernadino, California, where he attended elementary school and graduated from high school in 1962. It was during his high school years that he had a passing interest in amateur radio.

Dave later joined the U.S. Navy and as a radarman graduated from radar school with honors. He spent his tour of duty in Vietnam and later married his high school sweetheart.

He then returned to school, attending Glendale Community College and transferred to Cal

Dave Babulski, N4XVF
Photo by Joe Biddle, AD4PZ

State Northridge where he earned a BA in Earth Space Science.

Dave began working for 3M in 1973 as a copy machine repairman and later relocated with his wife to St. Paul, Minnesota and was later promoted to a Technical Instructor. Dave spent 13 years with 3M in St. Paul.

In 1975, Dave met his "elmer" who gave him the novice test. His first call sign was KN0UKK. Dave took full advantage of the year he spent as a novice,

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The Third Thursday Of The Month Falls On A Wednesday In May And June

Due to a scheduling conflict at the Justice And Administration Center, the GARS meeting in May and June will be on the third Wednesday. The May meeting will be on Wednesday, May 15 and the June meeting will be on Wednesday, June 19. The meetings will begin as usual at 7:30 PM in the main auditorium and the pre-meeting meal will be Ryan's Steak House in Lawrenceville at 6:00 PM. Please mark your calendars and don't forget to make the change for these two months.

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THE GARZETTE

THE GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, submit items in ASCII text format by email to ichapman@intergate.net or by posting a private message on the SA BBS (770) 236-7372, to Ike Chapman in the **GARS** conference. Use the Save Attached command and mark the security to receiver only. Art can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted on an IBM formatted disk or via email as a uuencoded file attachment.

Contact the editor for other format compatibility or other means of transfer. Deadline for submissions is the first of each month.

GARZETTE Editor

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My thanks to all of them for their help in producing THE GARZETTE.

All correspondence relating to articles posted in THE GARZETTE or for information concerning advertisement rates for THE GARZETTE should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
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Lilburn, GA 30226
Attn: Newsletter Editor

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Meeting Minutes

By Bill Ahls, KE4EIH

In attendance: President Howie Gould, W4NVF; Vice President Larry Osborne, KD4QFD; Secretary Bill Ahls, KE4EIH; Treasurer Randy Drescher, AC4PD; Activities Manager Marty Fowler, KE4MLH.

The meeting was called to order by President Gould on April 18, 1996, at 19:30 local time at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville.

All members and visitors were invited to introduce themselves with a total of 65 persons signing the meeting log.

Next Grant Tomlin, KF4HTL, did a presentation on the Internet. He worked with a few **GARS** individuals to get "gars.org" registered as a domain name. Randy Jarrett, WA4MEI will be the Internet provider hosting the **GARS** web page as it comes on the web. Items like THE GARZETTE will be available for browsing or downloading in Adobe Acrobat PDF reader format. A good laser (or inkjet) printer could print out your GARZETTE at home like the mail version. Final details will be approved by the GARS executive committee.

Randy Jarrett, WA4MEI gave further information on the Internet services he provides to **GARS** members. The payments are by the quarter and are \$15 dollars a month for unlimited personal time. The first time sign-up will include the first quarter, a one time \$15 registration, and an optional \$25 for Internet Chameleon for members that need a software starter package. Other packages may be bought or used.

Howie Gould, W4NVF mentioned the VE's were taking some new volunteers under the new change of conflict guidelines.

General and Advanced Class could help with testing novice and technician. Extra Class are required for General and above testing.

The minutes for the March meeting were approved as published in THE GARZETTE.

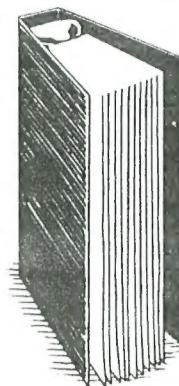
Randy Drescher, AC4PD, presented the treasurers report and current **GARS** checking balance which was approved by the membership. **GARS** does process new and renewal ARRL memberships to help club affiliation. Please give this information to Randy or send via the **GARS** PO box. Renewals need your ARRL mailing label.

Beginning the old business portion of the meeting. Charles Robison, AD4MI talked about the **GARS** Challenge program for all **GARS** members. He presented Mike Swiderski, K4HBI with a **GARS** VHF Simplex Challenge 35 contacts award. We need more **GARS** volunteers to support the Atlanta Radio Club hamfest on June 8 and 9. The **GARS** PRO-AM Challenge was discussed as printed in the April GARZETTE for May 11.

Joe Biddle, AD4PZ said there are 66 days until field day. The following two meetings we will hear more including logging field day contacts in June.

Ike Chapman, KE4GYM said THE GARZETTE won 283 of 300 points for an excellent rating in the ARNS newsletter competition with our membership writing a high content of our newsletter.

James Baker, KR4XY is seeking volunteers to help with the Hog Mountain Century Bike Ride on May 19, 1996. He also is



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Meeting Minutes

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taking apparel orders for **GARS** hats, shirts, and jackets.

Marty Fowler, KE4MLH is taking volunteers for the Snellville Parade Saturday, May 4.

Bill Ahls, KE4EIH is requesting volunteers for the Dacula Memorial Day (May 27) Parade and Run events. Sign up or call him at 770-279-7044.

The ARRL and the FCC announced special Olympic Call signs for operating in Georgia from now until August 31, 1996. The call number of a "four" call may be 96 for the year, 26 for the 26th Olympiad, or append 00 to make 400 for the centennial year of the Olympiad. All other regions may append 00 while operating in Georgia during the same time period.

Charles Robison, AD4MI announced a new class for General theory license upgrades to start April 10, 1996.

David Adcock, KA4KKF presented six new applicants for membership in **GARS**. A motion was made and seconded to accept the applicants as presented and passed without opposition. The new members of **GARS** are: David Farquhar, Associate; Gail Button, Associate; Suzanne Farr, Associate; Jan Huckabee, KF4HRZ; Art Smith, KE4MQX; and Melanie Cheek, KF4DFG. This makes 306 on the membership roster.

The Tuesday night net preamble may be found on Scientific-Atlanta BBS **GARS** conference 770-903-6789. The phone is correct in the GARZETTE "Work GARS" and will be corrected in the contact GARZETTE editor section. SNELLV is in work to get it back on the air and an offer was made on behalf of Alford Memorial Radio Club to set it up at the I285 and Memorial Drive site.

GARS Grows Again!

Six new members were voted in at the March meeting.

David Farquhar, Associate
Gail Button, Associate
Suzanne Farr, Associate
Jan Huckabee, KF4HRZ
Art Smith, KE4MQX
Melanie Cheek, KF4DFG

This brings the **GARS** membership to a total of 306 members.

Please welcome the new members to the club in person and on the **GARS** repeaters.



During the new business portion of the meeting. Special Olympics volunteers are needed. The fox hunt for Saturday April 20 will start at 8:00 AM. Several members are starting to meet for breakfast on the weekend. Someone may volunteer to organize who is meeting where and have different places in the county or rotate the places. ACOG volunteers are needed are for the world Congress Center and Georgia Dome in the concessions. Lee Flack needs 14 communications volunteers for the downtown center. Commercial radios are used and not ham equipment. Radio demonstrations are needed and April 27 was suggested for Sam's Club. Steve Rowe, KA5MTE will lead the demonstration at Sam's.

The meeting was adjourned at 21:30 local time by President Gould.



Contact GARS

1996-1997

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Have You Ever Tried VHF/UHF DX'ing?

By Don Button, AJ1T

Most of us, when we think of the VHF bands, immediately ask what the input and output frequencies are for the local repeaters. Do you ever roam to the lower ends of the bands, say below 145 MHz? Do you have a transceiver which can receive CW and SSB on these frequencies?

About three times each year, the VHF/UHF bands come alive with SSB signals for the ARRL VHF QSO Parties. The next Party weekend is in June. The activity level on these modes varies depending on the section of the country. In the northeast and California, it is extremely popular. Here in the Southeast, activity is a bit thinner. I am usually active in the VHF QSO Parties sponsored by the ARRL, and I would like to encourage more GARS hams to get involved.

Stations can make QSOs either as a fixed station, a portable station, or as a mobile "rover" station. I am usually in the "rover" category. The idea is to make contact with as many different stations as possible on as many different bands as possible. In these contests, six meters (50 - 54 MHz) is the lowest frequency band used, and there is no upper limit (yes, some of the highly equipped stations get active on the microwave bands). In the Atlanta area, the most popular bands are six meters, two meters, and 432 MHz. Stations exchange their "grid square" location. If you are not familiar with this system, just ask me at the next club meeting and I would be glad to explain it. Suffice to say for now, we happen to live very near the intersection of four squares, so it is quite easy to get contacts from all four of them rather quickly with limited equipment and antennas. (For those interested, the precise intersection point is in a residential housing development just north of the center of

Lawrenceville.)

What I particularly enjoy about going as a rover station is that a given station in a given grid square is considered unique. That is, if I drive to another grid square, I can work the same stations all over again without them considered as duplicate QSOs! Likewise, all the fixed stations can work me again whenever I change grid squares, which boosts their score also. In fact, as I said before, we try to work as many stations on as many different bands as possible, so I can work the same station on two (or more) bands from each different grid square I operate from. I have frequently worked the same station six or more times in one weekend, and none of the contacts are considered duplicates! When you rover, the contest really starts over again for you whenever you arrive in a new grid square; since you can work those stations again.

Let me also say that this contest is not like many we hear on the HF bands, such as Sweepstakes or the ARRL DX Competition, where the bands are jammed with signals, and competition runs fierce at times. The VHF/UHF bands are huge and are rather lightly populated by comparison. This makes for a "low stress" contest, with stations frequently exchanging names and equipment right in the contest. Frequently old friends stumble on each other, which leads to short ragchews at times. During the June, 1995 contest, I worked a portable station on Lookout Mountain several times from several grid squares. This led to a short rag chew, and after the contest, he even took the time to send me a copy of their entire log for the weekend!

Your equipment does not need to be terribly complex to have fun. I run a Yaesu FT-736R on two

meters and 432 MHz. Antennas are a four element yagi for two meters, and a six element yagi for 432. These are small enough to fit inside the van during travel with no disassembly. I run no external amplifiers or preamps. A rotator turns the yagis, and they get turned very often. Most stations are running very directive antennas, so it is frequently necessary to "peak up" on their signal. I make most of my initial contacts on two meters, on or near 144.200 MHz. Then operators will ask each other if they have equipment for other bands, and they agree on a frequency to meet. This is how I get most of my 432 MHz QSOs, which occur right around 432.200 MHz. Occasionally, though, after a 432 MHz contact, another station will hear me and call me, then we agree to meet on two meters. This way, we "toggle" between bands to maximize our contact total.

Can I tempt any of you to try it? It would be great to work some GARS members in June. GARS VHF activity on modes other than FM seems very light, so most of my contacts are with non-GARS hams. If you have any questions, just let me know and I would be glad to try to help.

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**Visit GARS On
The Internet**
<http://www.gars.org>

Information on club activities, officers, new members, email addresses of GARS members, repeater information, and THE GARZETTE are just a few of the items available.

An Old Friend Returns

By Jud Whatley, W4NZJ

In 1960 while I was recuperating from a serious injury, my Dad purchased me one of the improved ham rigs on the market. He hoped that it would keep me occupied, that I would learn electronics, and it would help keep me out of trouble which is so typical for young teenagers. The rig was a Johnson Viking Valiant AM/CW transmitter to go along with my Heathkit Mohawk (RX-1) receiver. This combo was a pretty good station back then. Here are a few specs about the Valiant: 150 watts AM output; weighs 83 pounds; 21.1" wide vs. 17.4" deep vs. 11.8" high; covered 160 -10 meters (including the old 11 meter ham band, now the present CB band); steel cabinet and chassis; 21 tubes and cost a WHOPPING \$439.50 in 1960 dollars! This would now amount to about \$1,985 in 1996 dollars! Cheap and small it was NOT but, fun and durable it was!

For three years I operated almost constantly sometimes causing TVI to my neighbors' chagrin. It was definitely a workhorse and weighed about as much, too! But in the fall of 1963, I finally shut down my "dynamic duo" since I was about to leave home for college. As I packed them up, I thought of my many fond QSOs and many memories and I wondered what was in store for me and my rig in the future. Would I ever "fire" them up again? Should I just sell them outright? These questions continued to cross my mind. However, being the sentimental (and cheap) person that I was, and still am, I decided to keep them both and only hope that I would use them again someday.

The next 33 years were a blur....college, Lockheed, U.S. Air Force, marriage, and finally a 25+

year career. During that time I carefully carried, or should I say I "lugged", those heavy dinosaurs around with me (Georgia, North Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, and finally Georgia again). As time and locations changed so did the times and technologies. Gone are the analog and amplitude modulation days...enter the digital days, satellites, repeaters, and SSB. Could I, or did I really want to, "fire" them up again? Those were the questions plus many technical problems lay ahead should I try bringing them back to life.

Since the Viking was in excellent shape (only two little scratches) while the Heath Mohawk not in quite as good condition, I decided to try the Valiant first. So, I dusted it off and a friend (K4AEK, with whom I grew up) and I started the task of refurbishing it. Nine electrolytic capacitors, 10 resistors, 1 power switch, 2 tubes, and 4 months later, this beautiful but huge transmitter was hopefully about to come to life again. Would it explode, burn, or simply purr? Those and other thoughts were in my mind as I "threw the big switch" (power switch) as we used to say back in those days. Slowly the tubes' filaments and plates started to glow, panel lights flickered on, and the sweet smell of capacitors and resistors heating, but not burning up, reached my nose. It was actually lumbering back to life like some pre-historic reptile! Hooray! There was no spitting, sputtering, sparks, or flames!

After a couple of nervous hours to let the rig stabilize and "burn-in", the next big test was to actually transmit! I really tried to think of reasons for not pressing the "push-to-talk" switch. In simple terms, I was scared just like

the time I first applied high voltage to my first transmitter in 1958. Jim is braver and told me to go ahead squeeze my D-104 microphone. In fact he probably repeated himself three times before I finally did so. As I spoke softly into the microphone and watched the mercury vapor tubes flash a soothing purplish glow in conjunction with my modulation, many thoughts flooded my memory as I began transmitting. I was immediately and momentarily mentally transported back to Cedartown and my last QSO in 1963 when I had reluctantly shut the rigs down.

Then came the sudden feeling that my old friend was again indeed ALIVE. Imagine for a moment...this fine piece of electronic equipment had not transmitted my voice in over 33 years! I felt it had been dormant and had returned and we were again together generating more RF, more QSOs and memories! I then made a promise that I would never shut it down again but would keep it operating. Now, I guess I'll have to consider bringing my Heath Mohawk back to life again. Wonder what memories it will create?

❖❖❖

Random Ramblings

You're PROBABLY a HAM radio operator:

If your spouse calls CQ DX instead of calling you to dinner.

If you know that a FOX hunt is not riding around looking for good looking chicks.

If you know that 5 by 9 is not a size measurement.

Thanks to Marty Ernst, KD4HLV

The Way I See It, Part 3

By J. Pickett Cummins, AD4S

This is a continuation of Sub Part A starting with section S97.5; Station license required.

Interestingly enough, the Amateur Service may be the only communications service regulated by the FCC where a call sign is granted to an individual as opposed to a physical radio station. This was a rule change that occurred in 1995. An example of this is WSB, the call sign refers to the station itself and not to any one individual.

I expect that the tremendous growth in mobile and portable activities in the Amateur Service in the last few years caused this change. At one time the FCC required that an amateur sign "portable" if operations were taking place somewhere other than the address shown on the license. At that time, the license could not show a post office box. At one time, any operation outside of the assigned call area for more than 30 days required a written notice on file with the FCC. (My my, how times have changed...at one time we had to keep a written log of every contact.)

Paragraph (a) says:

The person having physical control of the station apparatus must have been granted a station license of the type listed in paragraph (b), or hold an unexpired document of the type listed in paragraph (c), before the station may transmit on any amateur service frequency from any place that is:

- (1) Within 50 km of the Earth's surface and at a place where the amateur service is regulated by the FCC.
- (2) Within 50 km of the Earth's surface and aboard any vessel or craft that is documented or registered in the United States; or
- (3) More than 50 km above the Earth's surface aboard any craft that is documented or reg-

istered in the United States.

As you can see, these rules take care of operations in the Continental United States and its Territories as well as airplanes, ships and spacecraft that are registered in the United States regardless of where they are located.

Paragraph (b) says:

The types of station licenses are:

- (1) An operator/primary station license. One, but only one, operator/primary station license is granted to each person who is qualified to be an amateur operator. The primary station license is granted together with the amateur operator license. Except for a representative of a foreign government, any person who qualifies by examination is eligible to apply for an operator/primary station license. The operator/primary station license document is printed on FCC Form 660.
- (2) A club station license. A club station license is granted only to the person who is the license trustee designated by an officer of the club. The trustee must be person who has been granted an Amateur Extra, Advanced, General, Technician Plus, or Technician operator license. The club must be composed of at least two persons and must have a name, a document of organization, management and a primary purpose devoted to amateur service activities consistent with the Part. The club station license document is printed on FCC Form 660.
- (3) A military recreation station license. A military recreation station license is granted only to the person who is the license custodian designated by the official in charge of the United States military recreational premises where the station is situated. The person must not be a representative of a foreign government. The person need not have been granted an amateur operator license. The military recreation station license document is printed on FCC Form 660.

license custodian designated by the official in charge of the United States military recreational premises where the station is situated. The person must not be a representative of a foreign government. The person need not have been granted an amateur operator license. The military recreation station license document is printed on FCC Form 660.

- (4) A RACES station license. A RACES station license is granted only to the person who is the license custodian designated by the official responsible for the governmental agency served by that civil defense organization. The custodian must be the civil defense official responsible for coordination of all civil defense activities in the area concerned. The custodian must not be a representative of a foreign government. The custodian need not have been granted an amateur operator license. The RACES station license document is printed on FCC Form 660.

So there you have it; four types of licenses. Two of the licenses require a valid FCC issued Amateur Radio License and two do not. The military recreation license requires an official (officer) in charge of a physical plant designated as a military recreation facility. The RACES license requires a civil defense official.

Paragraph (c) says:

The types of documents are:

- (1) A reciprocal permit for alien amateur licensee (FCC Form 610-AL) issued to the person by the FCC.
- (2) An amateur service li-

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As I See It Part 3

(Continued from page 6)

icense issued to the person by the Government of Canada. The person must be a Canadian citizen.

Paragraph (d) says:

A person who has been granted a station license of the type listed in paragraph (b), or who holds an unexpired document of the type listed in paragraph (c), is authorized to use in accordance with the FCC Rules all transmitting apparatus under the physical control of the station licensee at points where the amateur service is regulated by the FCC.

As you can see, this paragraph deals with operators who have not been issued a license by the FCC but who can (under these provisions) operate where the FCC has jurisdiction. This includes amateurs from foreign countries where there exists a reciprocal agreement between that country and the USA.

This wraps up another edition of "The Way I See It". Next time we will look at control operators, license classes, ships and aircraft and restrictions on station locations. If we have space, we will also get into antenna structures.

If you have any comments regarding this series of articles, please let me know. I will be glad to include your comments in future articles.

♦♦♦

Random Ramblings

"Do not meddle in the affairs of dragons, for you are crunchy and good with ketchup."

>>> Unknown

♦♦♦

What A Shock In Memory Of W5MUG, Silent Key

By J. Pickett Cummings, AD4S

Back in 1962, the year after I got my first amateur radio license, a ham in Jackson, Mississippi, was elected ARRL Division Manager. I was living in Hattiesburg at the time and had talked to him on 75 meters.

After I moved to Atlanta in 1964, this ham visited me on numerous occasions when he was in town on business. He was employed by the Bell Telephone System. The only time that I ever rode to the top of Stone Mountain in the cable car, this ham paid for my ticket.

I lost track of this ham sometime in the 1970's but noticed in the late 1980's that he was on the DX Honor Roll. I inquired of some ham friends in the Jackson area and was told that this ham had retired and moved to Louisiana.

On February 21 of this year, late in the afternoon, I was scanning around on 20 meter phone and was listening to a DX pileup with a station down in the Caribbean. I heard the DX station respond to W5MUG but I could not hear the stateside station. This was the call of my friend from Jackson. I had not spoken with him in over 25 years.

I popped my telephone book CDROM in the computer and looked up his phone number and called him in Heflin, Louisiana. We had a wonderful chat and recalled many fun times in the past. He inquired as to the welfare of my brother Ed, W5CE, who had lived in Jackson at the same time as this well known ham.

If you will check the "Happenings" article on page 80 of the May QST, you will see that this friend of mine and his wife were both murdered later the same evening that I had called

him on the phone. This was Floyd Teetson and you can imagine my shock while scanning through this recent issue. Floyd was a great guy and a real representative of all the good things about this hobby. We will all be a little less well off now that he has gone to the great ham shack in the sky.

Interestingly enough, the article had a comment from Dave, K4JRB. Dave knew brother Ed while he was living in Mississippi and eventually wound up being a neighbor of Ed's in Norcross many years later. Dave is still in Norcross.

A final 73 es gd DX to Floyd from AD4S.

♦♦♦

PAID YOUR DUES YET?

If you haven't this could be your last issue of THE GARZETTE.

GARS membership dues are due on April 1st of each year and you have a 60 day grace period in which to renew your membership. If you haven't renewed by June 1 the mailing list for the newsletter is purged and the codes for the phone patch are changed. Please remember that the membership dues are the primary income for the club and get yours into as soon as you can.

♦♦♦

GARS Ham Of The Month

Dave Babulski, N4XVF

(Continued from page 1)

becoming quite proficient in CW. His first rig was a Heathkit DX-60B transmitter and a Heathkit receiver. His antenna was a Gotham vertical, which consisted of 3 pieces of aircraft aluminum tubing that telescoped and loaded with a coil at its base. Dave used clothesline to guy it and describes it as resembling the main mast on a ship. In the winter he had to continually scrape the ice from the coil in order to keep it operational.

Dave successfully passed the General in 1976 at the FCC office in St. Paul and became WB0UKK. Dave used his DX-60B and later got a used SB101 transceiver and was active on the 40/20/15 meter bands. Dave drifted away from ham radio five years later and sold his SB101, which he constantly wished he hadn't done. (Don't worry Dave, I did the same dumb thing with a Drake B-Line.) After three years out of ham radio Dave got interested in radio astronomy and lo and behold, it rekindled his interest in ham radio once again. He reentered ham radio using an HR-30 solid state rig and began an interest in operating on 2 meters.

In 1985, Dave and his wife moved to Wisconsin and he traded his HR-30 for a Dentron FT-100. In 1986, 3M was acquired by the Har-

ris Corporation and became Harris/3M and Dave was relocated to Atlanta. During the drive down, he operated his FT-100 mobile. In 1992, Dave got a "Kudzu shot" and applied for a 4 call and became N4XVF. He now operates 2 meters with a Radio Shack rig and HF with a TenTec Scout. His HF operation is mobile. Dave checks into the Classroom Net on 40 meters every morning at 7 on his way to work with WB2JKJ in New York.

Dave is now experimenting with operating mobile CW. Yep, you heard that right. Dave operates mobile CW with a strange concoction that leaves him resembling a gunslinger from the wild west. He actually has a leather saddle and a chain to his belt loop. He has mounted 2 straight keys back-to-back making a keyer. I guess you could say Dave has a "big iron on his hip".

Dave is also active in amateur radio astronomy. He has a 6 foot parabolic dish at 1.4 gigahertz and a 3 element quad with yagi elements that is used for observation of the sun. He is also active in model rocketry. With 12 years of experience in this interest he participates in competitive rocketry as sport. The object of this sport is to fire the rocket as high and as fast as possible in the shortest amount of time, but allowing the maximum amount of time for reentry. He is the founding member of GAMMA rocket club and also fly's model aircraft. Dave also has found time for

working on his doctorate degree.

Dave, his wife and 17 year old son live in the area of Snellville. He also has a daughter who is a school teacher and a daughter who is in college in Wisconsin and will be graduating at the end of May.

I really enjoyed talking with Dave and interviewing him for Ham of the Month. He is a very interesting guy with a varied background of many interests. If you hear Dave on the **GARS** machine, give him a shout. He certainly has a lot to offer **GARS** and I am sure you will find him a very interesting guy to get to know.

❖❖❖

Field Day Operators Wanted

GARS will be operating as a 5A station again this year for Field Day. At the May club meeting on May 15 a sign up sheet will be available for you to reserve your preferred time and mode. If you are not going to able to attend the meeting, please contact Ike Chapman, KE4GYM at (770)339-8123 to sign up. Remember you don't have to be a general class or higher to operate on the HF bands since control operators will onsite during the entire operation. This is great opportunity for Technician Class licensees to get on the HF bands.

❖❖❖

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The President's Pen

(Continued from page 1)

want to be part of it and that is the secret of the success of the club so far. A lot of ground work was done by a few individuals since my being elected as your President in 1994 to preserve **GARS** as a club that would genuinely be open to any licensed amateur radio operator and associates of them no matter what color skin, religion, or ethnic background. Class of license is not important but **GARS** welcomes upgrading and encourages it in every way possible to the extent that it has volunteer teaching for the no code class of license and most recently a general class in an attempt to make the transition to a higher class of license within easy reach of club members and non-members alike. Code practice has been a way of life for **GARS** for some time now and yes it takes volunteers to do these things and yes we need your talents.

GARS is a club on the move always looking for new ideas and things to do for the membership and this has been one of my priorities as your President. We have recently taken a great leap onto the Internet and we have our own web page. **GARS** has gone beyond being just a Gwinnett County radio club. Your membership is valuable please don't let this be your last newsletter because if you do not renew by June

1st, you will lose all privileges as a member. We are counting on your support for another year, the club is going places and I know you want to be part of that growth.

Please welcome all the new members that were voted in at our April meeting. **GARS** is proud to have them as members.

I hope every one is ready for some of the outdoor activities coming up soon like the Hog Mountain bike race, ARC Hamfest (we need lots of people to serve in this one), Field Day, and **GARS** yearly picnic at Fort Yargo in July. These are just a few of the many events planned with new ones always coming up, so be prepared my friends to make yourself available to support the club.

We had a chance to see how we could get together on short notice and have some fun too, so with Steve Rowe, KA5MTE coordinating the event, a radio demonstration was set up at the Sam's Club in Duluth on April 27th and I believe from what Marty Fowler, KE4MLH told me we had around 25 hams show up. You could call this a pre-field day exercise in endurance and testing out the antennas and equipment. A great job was done by all and we picked up 3 more new members.

See you all at the great next meeting in May.

73 Howie W4NWF

❖❖❖

HT's Okay At Olympics

By Ike Chapman, KE4GYM

In a previous edition of this newsletter a article from the ARRL newsletter indicated that amateur radio equipment including HT's would not be allowed at any of the Olympic venues.

But like Atlanta's weather, this too is subject to change. ARRL Bulletin 21, dated April 29, 1996 reports that ham radio HT's, CB transceivers, and cellular phones will not be kept out of the venues according to ARRL Southeastern Assistant Director Jim Altman, N4UCK.

There was no explanation of the earlier contradictory statement issued by ACOG but Altman did say "ACOG's decision making process changes daily. This is the state of affairs today. But I don't see any indication that it will change."

❖❖❖

Random Ramblings

"A good catchword can obscure analysis for fifty years."

>>>Wendell L. Wilkie

"The trouble with being punctual is that nobody's there to appreciate it."

>>>Franklin P. Jones

"A good acronym can defy reality forever."

>>>Unknown

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SWAP, WANTED and SELL NET
Tuesdays at 8:00PM on the
GARS 2m Repeater.

MORSE CODE PRACTICE
An interactive Morse Code practice session follows the 8:00PM Tuesday night net on the **GARS** 2m repeater.

PACKET RADIO USERS NET
Wednesdays at 8:00 PM on the **GARS**
2m Repeater.

❖❖❖

Rookie Radio Notes

By Cheryl McClure, AE4HN

One of the benefits of membership in **GARS** is phone patch privileges on the repeater. Have you heard others using the patch and wondered how it worked? Well, this article is for you.

First of all, the patch is closed access, which means the password or repeater code is given out only to **GARS** members. When you joined the club you should have been given the code. If you need to be reminded, contact our membership chairman, David Adcock, KA4KKF. Since this newsletter is read by non-members, I will substitute && for the code when I describe the procedure.

There are a few things to remember before you use the patch.

First, it is the most public phone call you will ever make. Please let the person know immediately that you are calling on the patch. The sound quality is usually quite good and it isn't obvious. They, and you, need to watch what they say over public airwaves, remember Part 97 is still in effect. Also, they need to understand that while you have the microphone keyed you can't hear them if they try to interrupt you.

Now, for the fun part. Before accessing the patch, listen to be sure the repeater is not in use. If you just turned on your radio you might want to ask, "Is the repeater in use?". If nothing is heard, then you may proceed. I will give the

procedure as if I were calling 555-1212.

>I key the microphone and say "This is AE4HN accessing the patch".

>With the microphone still keyed, I enter the repeater code (&&&), un-key and listen for the dial tone.

>When I hear the dial tone I re-key, dial the phone number (5551212) and un-key the microphone.

>The phone should begin ringing. You know what to do from here.

>Business calls are not allowed on the club phone patch. If you have any questions about what is appropriate, just check with one of the club officers.

>Remember, there is a three minute time limit (six minutes on calls to the 911 center) on your conversation! When the timer has neared its end a series of beeps will indicate that the phone patch is about to time out.

>When the call is complete, I key the microphone, press the disconnect code and un-key the microphone. The repeater will drop the patch and say "Phone patch clear".

>I key the microphone once more and say "AE4HN clear of the patch" and I'm done! That wasn't so hard, was it?

If you are using the speed dial code you don't need to use

the repeater code with it. So to call speed dial 5555, I would enter 5555.

If the above procedures don't work, it is possible that either the phone patch is down or your signal is too weak into the repeater to activate the patch. Try a little more power or wait until you are closer to the repeater to try again. Please make sure that you have a good enough signal to deactivate the patch before using it.

The procedures for using the emergency phone patch are very similar but a different code is used to access the Gwinnett County 911 center. That code is available from any of the officers and/or repeater control operators. A good rule of thumb for using the emergency phone patch is that if you don't think it's serious enough to stop and help, it's not serious enough to make the call.

♦♦♦

Random Ramblings

"Some scientist claim that hydrogen, because it is so plentiful, is the basic building block of the universe. I dispute that. I say that there is more stupidity than hydrogen, and that is the basic building block of the universe."

Frank Zappa

♦♦♦

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GARS Membership Application

P.O. Box 88, Lilburn, GA 30226

Amateur Callsign:

Class: _____ Expires: _____ / _____ / _____

Name: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

Address: _____

Work Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____

Type of Membership: Individual Family

ARRL Member Y/N: _____ ARRL Lifetime Y/N: _____

Additional members for Family Memberships

Callsign _____ Class _____ Birth Date _____ ARRL _____ ARRL Life _____

_____ / _____ / _____ [Y][N] _____ / _____ / _____ [Y][N]

_____ / _____ / _____ [Y][N] _____ / _____ / _____ [Y][N]

Interests: Class Instruction Field Day Operations Repeater Maintenance GARS Booth Staffing Emergency

Community Events Administrative Fund Raisers Other _____

Dues: Individual Membership \$25.00 Family Membership \$35.00 Senior Citizen \$12.50 Student \$12.50

Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

First Tuesday

Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers

Old Hickory House, 5490 Chamblee-Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody. Dutch dinner is at 6:30PM, followed by meeting. Talk In -145.410(-)

First Wednesday

HamWatch

Alpha Soda Restaurant, Haynes Bridge Road, Alpharetta, Dinner at 6:30PM. Meeting at 7:30PM

First Thursday

N.E. Ga ARC

Jefferson Civic Center, off Memorial Dr. toward Winder from Jefferson. Meeting is at 6:30PM. Talk In - 147.225(+)

Atlanta Radio Club

Kitteredge Magnet School, North Druid Hills Rd. and Briarcliff. Meeting is at 7:30PM Talk In -146.820(-)

Second Wednesday

North Fulton Radio League

Alpha Soda Restaurant, Haynes Bridge Road, Alpharetta, Dinner at 6:30PM. Meeting at 7:30PM Talk In - 145.47(-)

Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Elks Lodge on Memorial Drive. Dinner at 6:00PM Meeting at 7:30PM. Talk In - 146.760(-)

Second Saturday

East Atlanta LAN

Scott Blvd Baptist Church in Decatur. Meeting is at 10:00AM. Talk In - 145.410(-)

3rd THURSDAY

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Gwinnett Justice And Administrative Center in Lawrenceville. Meeting begins at 7:30 in the main auditorium Talk In-147.075(+)

♦♦♦

THE GARZETTE

MAY, 96

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30226



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GARS meets each month at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 15 at 7:30 P.M.

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THE GARZETTE

MAY, 96

Metro Atlanta Test Sessions

GARS Publishes Metro Area VEN/VEC Exam Schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed

1st Sunday - 2:00PM - W5YI VEC
Duane Reynolds, WB2YAD - 338-8791
Jackson EMC, 461 Swanson Road,
Lawrenceville

1st Monday - 7:30PM - ARRL VEC
Delaine McCarthy, KM4FV - 993-9758
St. Ann Catholic Church - 4905 Roswell
Rd - Marietta

1st Saturday - 9:00AM
George White, KN4NG 361-6850
Clayton Co. Emergency Mgmt. Bldg.
7496 N. McDonough St. - Jonesboro

2nd Sundays - 3:00PM
Mike Mahaffey, AD4QB - 974-7710
First Presbyterian Church 183 West
Main Street, Cartersville

2nd Tuesday - 7:00PM
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA 498-7759
Walton EMC - 3645 Lenora Church Rd,
Snellville

2nd Saturday - 8:30AM - CA VEC
Hal Martin, KI4RD - 978-9160
Stone Mountain Methodist Church -
5312 West Mountain St., Stone Mtn.

3rd Saturdays - 9:00AM
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ - 955-3171
Marietta First United Methodist Church
56 Whitlock Ave, Room 319

4th Sunday- 2:30PM - ARRL VEC
Steve Schmidt, KR4DL - 242-6142
Episcopal Church of the Atonement -
Highpoint Rd, Atlanta

4th Tuesday - 7:00PM ARRL VEC
Shirley Durham, KR4KO - 949-9025
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville, GA

4th Friday - 7:00PM
GARS W5YI-VEC
Howie Gould, W4NVF 921-8362
St. John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks
Trickum Rd, Lilburn

| | | | |
|-------|----------|----------|--------------------------|
| Mon | 147.21+ | 8:00PM | Congers ARES Net t-162.2 |
| Mon | 145.45- | 8:00PM | ARES Net (Decatur) |
| Mon | 145.47- | 8:00PM | North Fulton ARL Net |
| Mon | 145.41- | 8:30PM | MATPARC Net |
| Mon | 3.975 | 8:00PM | Swap Net |
| Tue | 147.075+ | 8:00PM | GARS Weekly Net |
| Tue | 147.075+ | 9:00PM | GARS CW Practice |
| Tue | 145.47- | 10:30PM | Insomniac Net |
| Wed | 147.075+ | 8:00PM | GARS Packet Net |
| Wed | 145.41- | 8:00PM | Chapter 49, QCWA Net |
| Wed | 146.67- | 9:00PM | LARC Net |
| Wed | 146.655- | 9:00PM | BSRG Net t-188.8 |
| Thu | 146.88- | 8:00PM | Kennahoochie ARC |
| Thu | 147.225+ | 8:00PM | NE Ga ARC |
| Thu | 147.15 | 8:00PM | simplex |
| Thu | 145.41- | 9:30PM | AMSAT |
| Thu | Cable57 | 9:30PM | Amateur Television, ATV |
| Fri | 3.898 | 8:00PM | GA Traders Net |
| Fri | 146.76- | Midnight | Turnip Truck Net t-107.2 |
| Sat | 7.275 | 8:00AM | Swap Net |
| Sat | 3.857 | 9:00AM | Chapter 49, QCWA Net |
| Sat | 146.76- | Midnight | Turnip Truck Net t-107.2 |
| Sun | 147.075+ | 8:00PM | Gwinnett ARES Net |
| Sun | 146.82- | 8:00PM | ARC Net |
| Sun | 146.76- | 7:00PM | Roundtable AMRC t-107.2 |
| Sun | 7.275 | 9:00AM | GA Traders Net |
| Sun | 3.983 | 5:00PM | GA ARES |
| Daily | 146.76- | Noon | Brown Bag Net t-107.2 |
| Daily | 146.88- | 11:00PM | Late Nite Owl Net |
| Daily | 146.79- | 8:00PM | Sassafrass Mtn. |
| Daily | 3.975 | 6:00PM | WX & Skywarn |

This is a "living list", meaning it is constantly changing. If you know of additions or changes to it please contact the Editor.